



CONSTITUTION AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Thursday 20th February 2025

REPORT TITLE:	CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2025/26 AND 2026/27
REPORT OF:	DIRECTOR OF LAW AND CORPORATE SERVICES

REPORT SUMMARY

This report recommends amends to the previously agreed dates for Council and Committee meetings for the municipal year 2025/2026 as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report. The report also recommends draft dates for the municipal year 2026/27 at Appendix 2.

This matter affects all wards. This is not a key decision.

The report contributes to the delivery of the Wirral Plan 2023-2027 by ensuring that the Council's decision-making process is as effective as possible

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Constitution and Standards Committee is requested to recommend to Council:

- (1) that the revised Calendar of Meetings 2025/26 be approved.
- (2) that the Calendar of Meetings 2026/27 be approved.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 1.1 The Council must approve and publish a Calendar of Meetings for each municipal year.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 The other option was to produce a calendar of meetings for 2025/26 only, however it was felt to enable easier forward planning for Members and Officer a two-year calendar of meetings would be produced, and that in future years calendars would be produced a year in advance with the upcoming calendar to be reviewed for any minor changes required.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 Members are asked to consider the draft Calendar of Meetings for the Municipal Year 2025/26 and 2026/27 and provide details and reasons of any changes (if any) they would like to see to the draft Calendar.
- 3.2 Convening an extraordinary Council meeting or changing a scheduled meeting can often prove difficult given the demands placed upon Members. Matters are compounded by the membership of committees, etc being limited to a specific number of Members (and deputies) which impacts upon availability. It is therefore important that the Calendar of Meetings comprehensively captures Council meetings in such a way that it enables the Council to manage and discharge its functions in a timely and cost-effective manner.

Revisions to the Calendar

- 3.9 All proposed revisions to the 2025/26 calendar have been replicated in the draft 2026/27 calendar.
- 3.10 Removal of Wirral Place Based Partnership Board meetings to allow officers time to produce contemporaneous reports for the board. The December meetings will also be removed as the timing coincides with the busiest time operationally for health and social care. The Chair of Wirral Place Based Partnership Board has approved the deletions.
- 3.11 The Policy and Resources Committee unanimously agreed on 11 September 2024 that Shareholder Board matters will be considered by the Policy and Resources Committee until further notice. The Chair of Shareholder Board has agreed that all future committees be deleted.
- 3.12 Dates are not included in the Calendar for Member training. A programme of dates will be drawn up by the Member Support Steering Group in due course and circulated to Members.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 It is considered good practice for the Council to publish a Calendar of Meetings in respect of each Municipal Year.

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: STAFFING, ICT AND ASSETS

6.1 The Council is required to ensure there are sufficient resources to administer all Council meetings in accordance with relevant legislation and the Council's Constitution.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

7.1 It is not possible to pre-empt or predict the exact number of Council meetings that are required and when they will need to take place. Additional Council meetings will be convened when necessary (and in accordance with the Council's Constitution) to ensure that the Council discharges its duties, obligations and responsibilities.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

8.1 The development of the Committee Calendar and any suggested amendments to it has been informed by the discussions held at recent meetings of the Governance Working Group.

8.2 Following discussions at Governance Working Group, the date for the meeting of Full Council scheduled for October 2025 has been chosen to avoid any political party conference and as a result, this has meant scheduling two committee meetings in October 2025 half term.

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no direct equality implications arising from this report.

10.0 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no direct environment or climate implications arising from this report.

11.0 COMMUNITY WEALTH BUILDING

11.1 There are no direct community wealth implications arising from this report.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Revised Calendar of Committee Meetings 2025/26
Appendix 2 – Calendar of Committee Meetings 2026/27

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Council Constitution
Calendar of Committee Meetings 2024/25

TERMS OF REFERENCE

This report is being considered by the Constitution and Standards Committee in accordance with Section (m) of its Terms of Reference, “to consider and make recommendations on such other matters as the Committee itself thinks appropriate or which are referred to it by Council, which further the aim of promoting and maintaining the highest standards of conduct within the Council.”

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Council Constitution and Standards Committee	28 February 2024
Council Constitution and Standards Committee	20 March 2023
Council Constitution and Standards Committee	22 February 2023
Council Constitution and Standards Committee	25 May 2022
Council Constitution and Standards Committee	17 February 2022
Council Constitution and Standards Committee	22 March 2021
Council Constitution and Standards Committee	24 February 2021